

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Final Office Action, claims 1-5, 4-14 and 16-18 were allowed, claims 6 and 16 were merely objected to due to typographical errors and claims 19-35, 37-48 and 51 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 and/or §103.

By the foregoing amendments, the typographical errors in claims 6 and 15 have been corrected, thereby placing the claims 1-18 series in condition for allowance.

Also, by the forgoing amendment, claims 19-35, 37-48 and 51 have been cancelled without prejudice. This claim cancellation is made solely for the purpose of expeditiously placing this application in condition for allowance on an after final basis and does not indicate or imply Applicants' agreement with the stated grounds for rejection. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute these claims and/or additional claim by way of one or more continuing applications.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant believes all the pending claims are in condition for allowance and should be passed to issue. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-2525. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would in any way expedite the prosecution of the application, please do not hesitate to call the undersigned at telephone (707) 543-5484.

Respectfully submitted,

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